

THE SUR to-day consists of sistem pages. Our Ariends should see that their necession furnishes them with the unitive paper.

Harlem's Battle.

The Southern Society of New York has passed resolutions requesting the Park Com-missioners to appropriately mark the scene of the battle which took place at Harlem Heights and on the adjoining plains on the 16th of September, 1776. The society also proposes to join the Independence Day Association of Harlem in celebrating the next Fourth of July, with special reference to commemorating that battle.

The proposal to mark this spot with a suitable tablet or monument has much in its favor. The action in question, while not a general engagement of the armies, had the great merit of being an American success interposed in a series of defeats and failures during a period of great gloom and despondency, the six months succeeding the Declaration of Independence. This period in-cluded the defeat on Long Island, Hown's capture of New York, Washington's second defeat at White Plains, the capture of Fort Washington, and the flight of the American ermy through New Jersey into Pennsyl-

The affair at Harlem came between the defeat on Long Island and the one at White Plains. The day before had occurred the ingiorious abandonment of the works at Kip's Bay, which forced the immediate evacuatio of the city by the portion of PUTNAM's troops left there. Washington posted his forces further north on the island, with advanced bodies at Harlem and McGowan's Pass. On the day following, at the approach of the British advance under LESLIE. WASHINGTON attacked the enemy in a flank movement, undertaken by three companies of WEEDON'S Virginia regiment, under Major LEITCE, supported by New England rangers, under Lieut.-Col. Knowl.ron. As the action became warmer two Maryland regiments were thrown in. At length WASHINGTON, unwilling to risk a general engagement, drew off his troops. The general result was announced in orders by Washington on the day following:

"HEADQUARTERS, HARRIEM HEIGHTS, Sopt. 17, 1770. Parole, Luirun; countersign, Virginia.

"The General most heartly thanks the troops com

manded yesterday by Major Lairca, who first advanced upon the enemy, and the others who so resolutely sup-ported them. The behavior yesterday was such a cen-trast to that of some of the troops the day before as must show what may be done where officers and soldiers will exert themselves. Once more, therefore, the Gen-eral calls upon officers and mon to not up to the noble cause in which they are engaged, and to support the bonor and liberties of their country.

"The gallant and brave Col. Knowl.roy, who would have been an honor to any country, having fallen yes-terday, while gioriously fighting, Capt. Brown is to take command of the party lately led by Col. Knowness." An action which brought out this com-

mendation from Washington, merits some memorial in these days, when Revolutionary monuments are in vogue. The Southern Bo clety has done well in reviving the subject.

Our Possible Allies.

There are patent and convincing reasons of State why it behooves patriotic Americans to bind with hooks of steel the only possible allies which this country can count upon in Europe. Those allies are France and Russia, and it is easy to forecast a contingency in which their cooperation might be imperatively needed.

The British Tories hate us, and the masse of our people regard with responsive detestabrutal tramplers upon human rights in Ireland and the insolent deriders of our democratic institutions. If the British democracy, inspired and led by GLADSTONE. were permitted to administer affairs in a spirit of benignity and justice, then Amerims and Irishmon and Englishmen might be linked in concord and good will. But if, as there is now unhappily too much ground for apprehending, the base and cruel instincts of the British aristocracy are ain for an extended period to govern the United Kingdom, the old and trenchant schism in the Anglo-Saxon race will become envenomed and irreparable. The descendants of the men of 1776 and 1812 repudiate kinship with the Tory oligarchs who are about to heap on helpless Ireland indiguities and injuries that they never dared to offer to the American colonies. But Ireland only seems helpless, for her friends are raighty. Never again will Irishmen, amid their ruin and despair, lift up hands of supplication to unmoved spectators on this side of the Atlantic. And let it be distinctly understood that when the wrongs of Ireland shall call for succor more effective than effusions of lip sympathy, Americans will not stand forth alone to do the work of rescue and redemption.

There exists already an agreement be tween the French republic and the Russian Government to render each other reciprocal support in certain eventualities. We could have for the asking a similar engagement from both of those countries, particularly if Great Britain were the power in which we recognized a contingent enemy. Nowhere in the world, outside of the United States and Ireland, is England so detested as in France and a. How the popular feeling could translate itself into efficient coalition may be seen from the timely demonstration with which Russia at the crisis of our civil war thwarted the malignant plans of the British abettors of secession. The only difference would be that in this case the precautionary demonstration for the protection of our se ports would be on a scale of surpassing magnitude; for the French republic, sharing none of the anti-American interests and predilections of the Bonapartist régime, would take an imposing art in it. It would be a presirranged result of such an understanding as could be easily effected, that, before we actually entered on war with Great Britain, fleets of French and Russian fronclads would be ordered to rendezvous in the chief harbors of our Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Then, with our scaboard cities secured against bombardment, wherein lies our only danger, we should have time to build forts capable of self-defence, and to pour forth swarms of privateers that would sweep the British commerce from the ccean and force our ancient enemy to quaff the cup of vineger and hyssop that she compelled us to drain amid the throes of the rebellion. Meanwhile our friends, the Irish and French Canadians, representing a great majority of the province of Quebec and the maritime provinces, would heartily invite us to annex the Dominion, and an invasion undertaken for that amicable purpose would be a holiday excursion.

Such a costition between Russia, France, and the United States would unquestionably involve the hamiliation of the British empire; and no American should hesitate to avow his conviction that, if the British empire is for some time to come to be swayed by Tory ruffians, it deserves to be humiliated. Such an event would mean the assured ascendancy

mean the deliverance of Ireland, the eleva-tion of Canada to the dignity of real inde-pendence and industrial prosperity, the transfer of Egypt to the nation that created the Sues Canal, and the supersession of the obnoxious British ray in India by the rule of the White Czar, which, though doubtiess autocratio, is much less offensive to Asiatio feelings and ideas.

Religion and Education.

On Wednesday, in the Diocesan Convention of the Long Island Episcopalians, the Rev. Mr. Geer of Oyster Bay offered a resolution declaring that "the public schools do not farnish a proper and suitable education for the children of the Church," and calling on the elergymen of the diocese "to assume, when possible, the moral, mental, and spir-itual education of the children of their respective parishes."

"The public schools have become Christless," said Mr. GEER, in advocating the passage of his resolution, which, he truly explained, was in harmony with the spirit and teaching of an article on the subject written by the late Dr. Honor of Princeton a short time before his death. Dr. Honge's views, to which we referred at the time of their publication, were very similar to those so often presented by the Roman Catholic clergy, to whom he gave the credit of having maintained a sounder and more consistent position as to education than Protestants had had the courage to assume. He agreed with them that there could be no true and desirable education for the young from which religious teaching was excluded; and he commended the text books in use in their parochial schools as superior to those employed in the State schools.

But the resolution of Mr. GEER was not adopted by the Convention, which merely referred it to a standing committee on education, with whom it will rost, while the discussion of the subject it brought forward goes on in the Episcopal Church. As Judge GILBERT of Brooklyn remarked in advocating the reference, the Episcopalians can only withdraw their children from the public schools when they are prepared to sustain the expense of schools conducted by themselves. He would not bring on a contest between the Church and the State over the question, for, as he said, "the Church cannot afford to antagonize the State." In his opinion, we infer, the only practicable course for the Episcopalians is to set up schools of their own if they demand religious instruction for their children in school.

But the introduction of the resolution is another among many indications that Protestants, no less than Catholics, have become discontented with the purely secular education of the public schools. They find, or think they find, that its tendency is to promote irreligion among the young at a time when the seeds of religious skepticism are easily sown, and their growth is stimulated by so many influences outside of the schools.
"Dr. Hodge's paper," said Bishop Little-JOHN in speaking of the debate in the Diocesan Convention, "Is a powerful expression of views coming to be entertained by many thoughtful men-a deep and serious dissat isfaction with the drift of the public schools."

Dr. Honge was one of the most distinguished of Presbyterian theologians, and yet on this subject of public education he declared himself in general harmony with Roman Catholic clergymen who were most pronounced in their opposition to the schools peosuse of their studious avoidance of religion. Prof. SEELYE, a foremost representative of New England Congregationalism, has frequently expressed like opinions, and the Episcopalians are commonly of the same mind, while among other Protestant bodies there is increasing opposition to the divorce of religion from education in the State schools. Yet, so far, no plan for providing religious instruction which would be satisfactory to both Catholics and Protestants and also to the many of no religious convic tions whatever, has been proposed; nor do we see how such a plan can be devised.

Either the school fund obtained by general taxation must be divided up among the different Churches, to be expended by them according to the numerical strength of their respective schools, or the public schools must | furnish a government capable of the most go on ignoring the controverted subject of religion. Dr. Hongs seemed to think that Catholics and Protestants might agree on a system of religious instruction for the public schools satisfactory to both; but that is hardly possible. Even the different sects of Protestants could not come to an agreement among themselves on the subject. Then there are the multitudes of Jews, besides those who detest all religious teaching.

The project for distributing the school fund to religious schools controlled by Churches would involve a change in our whole system so radical that its discussion would be long and bitter, and its adoption more than doubtful. But the difficulty would be largely overcome if our public schools kept within the legitimate sphere of education for which all the people are taxed, by confining themselves to simply elementary instruction, leaving to the Churches and other organizations the function of carrying the children further.

Stanley's Land March.

In the last stage of STANLEY'S present journey he will travel a little north of east for about four hundred miles from Stanley Falls to the south end of Albert Nyanza. Almost every step of the way will be through regions that no explorer has ever visited. The Arabs have invested this unknown district with terrors so formidable that last year Dr. LENZ did not dare to attempt a ourney through it with his small force, believing that an effort to reach Dr. JUNKER by that route without a large expedition at his back would meet with certain defeat. Yet shortly before he had braved the mani-

fold perils of the Sahara to visit Timbuktu. It is said to be STANLEY's purpose to as cend the Mburu River, which meets the Congo just below Stanley Falls, as far as he can make it available. Over two years ago a party of Arabs who ascended this river were treated to an undoubted surprise. The large Wabia tribe attacked Tippu Tib's Invincibles with poisoned arrows, and with such remarkable energy that the slave stealers took to flight and were chased almost within gunshot of Stanley Falls. TIPPU TIB at once sent back an expedition of five hundred men, and when Dr. LENZ reached the Falls ten months later the Arab camp was much disturbed over the fact that no tidings from the party had come back. Trppy Tin

was sending out messengers for news. These natives, however, treated well the only white man they have seen. When WESTER paddled for two days up the Mburu he found the Wabia in towns containing 2,000 to 3,000 people. It was natural that they should regard Arabe on a slave hunt as their enemics; but STANLEY is likely to find the obstacles Nature will place in his way more formidable than any tribes he will encounter.

It is not at all likely that he can utilize the Mburu or other streams for any great distance. These rivers drop rapidly to the Congo, and there is reason to believe they are all impeded by cataracts. STANLEY of American commerce on the seas; it would | will find no beaten paths made by coravans,

at least in the first part of his journey, through forest regions almost under the equator, where the wildness and luxuriance of vegetation, though they may delight the botanist, embarraes and delay the traveller. One of Dr. JUNKAR's routes runs parallel for some distance with the road STANDEY will probably take, and about seventy miles from it. His observations and the information he derived from natives make it probable that STANLEY will at length emerge from the forest-covered region into a rough, hilly country, where the chief obstacle to rapid progress will be the tall grass, which is highest at this season of the year. Dr. JUNKER says it is possible to travel with comfort in this region only in December and January, when the dry grass is burned off.

Although the Wabia are an important tribe there is little danger that STANLEY will meet with any natives strong enough, even if they are disposed, to give him any very serious trouble. No really powerful King is known | to live in this region or north of it, the Monbuttu and Niam Niam empires, of which SCHWEINFUETH gave so graphic a picture, having fallen to pieces. From all the information Dr. JUNKER could glean, the tribes STANLEY will meet are for the most part disorganized and disunited, and the last half of his journey will be made through a rather thinly settled country. In his early marches, however, he will pass through a populous region, and this is the district which Dr. LENZ believes no expedition can penetrate except in imposing force.

STANLEY'S party seems to fulfil that requirement. No such caravan has ever before entered Central Africa. Letters from the lower Congo say that, accustomed as the natives are to the sight of large companies of travellers, they were astonished at the Impressive spectacle presented by STANLEY'S force as the 600 Zanzibar porters with their many tons of freight, the 100 Soudanese soldiers with their shining equipments, the 90 white-robed men of TIPPU TIB, and the European and native leaders of the party mounted on twenty-one mules wound over the hills along the cataracts. The natives of Central Africa, who are now to see white men and see a caravan for the first time, will have made considerable advance in education before they lose sight of the great expedition.

Government by Commissions. One hundred years ago the founders of our political system thought themselves possessed of a reasonably just conception of the

machinery needed for the administration of

a free government. But after a century of experience it has been discovered that the architects of the Constitution were all wrong; that executive officers, legislative bodies, and courts, as they were originally organized, are incapable of doing their work, and that their functions must be turned over to permanent tribunals appointed to execute or suspend the law as they may think proper, and to subject the community to personal control. It was a most marvellous discovery to be made, seeing that history has given us no reason to doubt the soundness of the ideas on which the Constitution was founded. It is not less marvellous, either, that the new idea should be cherished after it has been discovered that the proposed substitute for representative government proves, in every instance where

it is applied, either abortive or mischievous. What is a Commission? A body of men appointed to see that the laws are properly executed. This, it is to be presumed, would be the answer made by the advocates of such anomalous executive machinery. But it would not be true; and even were it true, it would not meet the objection that a Commission is an extra constitutional body. Commissions are intrusted with powers that invade at once the executive, the legislative, and the judicial departments of the Government. They are appointed to interpret, to execute, or to suspend the laws as they think proper, and to make regulations that are to have the effect of laws. Properly defined, a system of Commission government would be a multiplex dictatorship. If developed in all the completeness that

is now threatened, this new system will despotic exercise of authority, and, in the end, it would probably be given over to indulgence in all the rascalities which the possession of power enables men to practise with impunity. Moreover, it would necessarily remain permanent in its official tenure, none but specialists and men of experience being competent for ruling in the intricate fields that are to be cared for. Besides, it offers illimitable opportunities for the formation of plundering rings. The idea of Commission government is ostensibly advanced for the protection of the public; but no more perfect system could be devised for promoting combinations for plundering the public. A wellknown United States Senator once objected to sending a ship in search of a missing ship that had sailed on a voyage of discovery toward the north pole, because the act would necessitate the sending of still a third ship to look after the second. If this new device in government should stand, we shall soon find it necessary to appoint a second set of Commissions to investigate the methods and schievements of the first.

During the last century it has been demonstrated in this country that government. beyond the simplest requirements of public protection against the criminally disposed and the vicious, is a nuisance; that it is weak and perfunctory when intrusted with work from which individual or associated labor might derive a profit, and obstructive and plundering when permitted to wield power which the protection of the community does not demand. Men are beginning to understand that social organization belongs to society in its industrial and mercantile capacity, and not to men either born or chosen to govern. It was hardly to be expected that we should witness here the growth of something stronger than the Constitution and the government it creates. But when we look at it closely, we see it is only the old snake in a new skin that they are trying to wind in voluminous folds around the body of the Constitution; and it would be treason to the intelligence of the American people to suppose that the operation will be permitted to proceed much further. We had better stick to the Constitution and to the legislative, executive, and judicial system which we have inherited. Government by Commissions is the worst sort possible.

Eugene Field and Trousers Reform. An independent movement in favor of knickerbockers for every-day wear has been started in Albany. The Knee Breeches Association of that town, as we learn, now includes not less than sixty active members, every one of them pledged to wear short trousers and long stockings both at business and in society. At church only, during divine service, are the members of the Albany Knee Breeches Association exempt from the obligation which they have voluntarily and deliberately assumed. When we speak of the Albany movement

as an independent effort in the direction of trousers reform, we mean that it is not in any sense an offshoot or consequence of the time in preparing for the details of the compe-

as in East Africa, but he will have to march, | great Northwestern boom of four months | ago. That brilliant but brief demonstration owed its dazzling success to the interest which the Hon. EUGENE FIELD of the Chicago News temporarily felt in the knickerbocker question. With charac-teristic energy this ardent philanthropist threw his whole soul into the work. Un-selfish, absolutely devoted to a high ideal of duty, fearless and tireless in the service of any cause he makes his own, for several weeks Mr. FIBLD put at the service of the trousers reformers the almost inexhaustible resources of a master intellect. No wonder the agitation biazed up into sudden glory. For nearly a month Mr. FIELD hardly took time to eat or sleep. The files of the Chicago News for that period contain the record of

his unexampled activity.

It was a remarkable battle for reform. Not only in Chicago itself, but also in the tributary towns of Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, and Minnesota, the influence of Mr. Field's enthusiasm was immediately manifest. Local clubs and auxillary associations were formed everywhere under his skilled and vigorous direction Hundreds of citizens of all conditions of life pledged themselves to wear knes breeches on and after a certain day to be designated by Mr. FIELD as the time for concerted action. Every mall brought to hisoffice the names of new-recruits; every number of the Chicago News disclosed some novel and ingenious plan for stimulating the interest of both sexes in the approaching demonstration-for Mr. FIELD held with reason that no permanent results could be accomplished without the encouragement and moral support of the sisters, wives, and sweethearts of his converts to the cause.

Why was the long-expected signal-the appearance of the Hon. EUGENE FIELD in front of the Grand Pacific Hotel, clad in knickerbockers and black silk stockingsnever given by the leader of these impatient thousands? Who can tell? The contemptible gossip that accused Mr. FIELD of a pecuniary motive certainly had no power to injure him or to retard the progress of reform. The convenient little device invented and patented by him, and widely known as FIELD's Lazy Man's Suspenders, gained, of course, a considerable advertisement by the agitation of the knee breeches issue; but it is and always has been perfectly well understood that Mr. FIELD derives no income whatever from the Suspenders that bear his honored name. They are sold absolutely at cost of production, and solely for the physical and aesthetic benefit of the inventor's fellow men. Nor was there the slightest ground for the charge that Mr. FIELD's courage failed when the hour for decisive action arrived. No man in the United States has less cause than he to hestitate about illustrating in person the immeasurable superiority of knee breeches to long trousers, either as regards convenience of locomotion or desirability from the artistic

point of view. Why, then, we ask, did he never give the preconcerted signal that was to consummate the propagandism of weeks? In all probability, simply because the fire of his enthusiasm burned itself out before the harvest time came. It is a fact-and we mention the fact without the least disrespect to Mr. FIELD—that the variety of his undertakings and the comprehensiveness of his sympathies sometimes impair the continuity of effort in the direction of any particular reform. He is at present, for example, devoting his philanthropic energies and unrivalled powers of concentration and ratiocination to the question of corsets as against chemiloons-if that is the word for the arrangement which Mr. FIELD proposes to substitute for the rigidity of whalebone or steel.

The independent movement at Albany, however, shows that the cause of knee breeches still has vitality in spite of the unfortunate defection of its great and venerated leader.

The Washington Drill.

In some respects the militia encampment which has been held at Washington during the past week has had more than the averthe question must have occurred to its promoters, no less than to the troops taking part in it, whether the expenditure of time, labor, and money upon it has been adequately re-

warded in the results achieved. To begin with, such a gathering is in no sense a camp of instruction. It is purely an exhibition; and no competing company is even allowed to be present at the drills of the other companies until its own competition is over. This rule is necessary in order that the organizations whose turns come latest may have no advantage over those which exhibit in the earlier days; but it illustrates how thoroughly the idea of instruction, even in the form of witnessing the proficiency of others, is subordinated to simple display. Again, early in the meeting Gen. Augun, who commands the camp, was compelled to issue an order forbidding even the private drilling of any company prior to completing its public competition, inasmuch as a portion of the programme of infantry companies had become known. Thus the possibility of profitably using the time passed in camp has still further diminished.

There are other drawbacks in such a contest. The assignment of army officers as judges of the drills seems to give general satisfaction. Yet it is difficult to secure an equality of conditions for the competitors. Some days at this season are excessively hot, while others may be cool and bracing; on some occasions the ground is favorable for marching, and on others it is sticky or slippery or dusty. The order of Gen. AUGUR showing the premature disclosure of the programme suggests still other inequalities.

No doubt the great prizes offered at these encampments often cover the expenses of the winners; but they go to a small minority of the competitors, the majority incurring the cost of the journey and of maintenance in camp without reimbursement. Regarded as a pleasure tour, this is all well enough, but as an expenditure for securing a public bene fit by greater militla inefficiency, it is hardly the most profitable form of outlay.

Then the assentially speculative character of the undertaking is omnipresent, to detract from the good effects of the encampment Many things must be done for advertising display, as when, on the first evening of the Washington camp, a dress parade was held in single rank in order to make a longer line. With the utmost discretion and tact on the part of the management quarrels and unpleasantnesses occur, as in the unwise refusal of the Vicksburg Southrons and Memphis Zouaves to parade behind colored troops In a State militia camp insubordination and unsoldierly conduct can be prompt ly punished; but the case is different where the competitors feel themselve to be contributors to a commercial enterprise. The doubt, also, whether this enterprise will turn out a financial success is always a depressing one. When it does not, severe and unpleasant scaling of the amounts of the prizes, or a total omission of some of them, may occur, as at Philadelphia

tition may leave too little for others that go to the making of an efficient citizen soldier. Still, these competitive drills no doubt have certain good results in stimulating

ambition for excellence, as also a popular interest in the militia. It is sure that they hold their own in favor, since two more are already appointed for this year, one in Louisville and the other in Chicago.

William to Work.

The Secretary of Harvard University some time ago informed the students in all depart ments of his readiness to help such of them as need to work to support themselves, in getting employment during the coming summer vacation. A large number of applications have been filed at his office in reply to his circular. It appears that in spite of some unfavorable current rumors and complaints about the wealth and luxurious living of the students at Cambridge, there are many poor men there, and these students of narrow means are willing and anxious to work to get money to pay for their education.

Many of the students who have applied to

the Secretary want places as tutors for the summer. Such places usually pay well, and besides they often give an opportunity for travel. Others of the students want employment as clerks or salesmen. Others and these have chosen perhaps the healthiest and manliest work of all, are farmer boys; they want to become hired men in the country for the summer. They will not get very high wages, perhaps, but they will develop their muscles and their appetite for plain food. Several of the applicants want employment as hotel clerks, and will not refuse to be waiters. We are afraid, however, that the profession of waiter requires more skill than these amateurs could bring to it. If they venture it, they should not follow the bad example of the student waiters who used to be at the hotels in the White Mountains and other summer resorts, and take tips. As Mr. THEODORE ROOSEVELT lately put it, an American doesn't take tips, and moreover these student waiters are usually so clumsy and ignorant of their business that they don't deserve tips. If the Cambridge young men have the lordly self-possession and superiority of the hotel clerk. well and good. As waiters they are less likely to shine.

One of the Harvard men would like to be clerk of a steamboat. Another has been a conductor on a Pullman ear. If he had only been a porter, he might afford to found a college of his own. Another applicant has been a locomotive fireman and a horse-car conductor, and is ready to work next summer in either capacity. Still another is a skilful box maker and wood carver. On the whole, the men give the impression of being willing to do any honest work, and of being able to do some work well. It was a good notion of the college authorities to try and help them to employment, and it is pleasant to see that the students whose means are small are ready to work.

That shrewd politician, Mr. SMALLEY of Vermont, Collector of Burlington, said the other day that "Mr. CLEVELAND'S nomination depended entirely upon himself." This may be true enough in Vermont, where the appointment of Mr. PHELPS to England may have given satisfaction, but it is the reverse of true in New York. Here, fortunately, the nomination of any man by the Democratic party depends upon the Democracy alone.

Mr. SMALLEY also goes on to say that Mr. CLEVELAND'S renomination is probable, because there will now no longer be any talk about the danger to the country that might result from the accession of the Democratic party to power. This is another specimen of the same sort of reasoning. It proceeds upon the idea that some outside power controls the action of Democrats. But they never had any fear of danger to the country from their own accession to power, and the removal of such a fear is of no importance to them.

It is very funny how all the prophets of Mr. CLEVELAND'S second nomination have to go outside of the Democracy when they are invited to explain their views.

Mr. MATTHEWS, the accomplished editor of the Buffalo Express, has been making some inrience in libel suits. In twenty-five years of professional labor, he has been sued for libel a dozen times, and in only one instance has the jury brought in a verdict against him. That was in a case tried in the plaintiff's own town, before a jury of his friends and neighbors, and they gave him \$1,000 damages. This case, Mr. MATTHEWS says, has been appealed; and what is more, he adds that he has never retracted or apologized after a suit against

him had been bogun. Our own experience is similar to that of Mr. MATTHEWS. During more than forty years of professional service, most of it in this town, we now recall two libel cases that have gone against us. One was in the Tribune, and Mr. GREELEY, who was never disposed to back down, employed the late Mr. O'Conos, in the belief that he was a thorough fighting lawyer. But the counsel did not take the same view as his clients, and the result was a compromise in which \$1,200 was paid, with a qualified apology to boot, the apology being dictated by Mr. PETER B. SWEENT, who was the lawyer of the plaintiff.

The other case was in THE SUN. and, queerly enough, the statements complained of were true as to one man, but untrue as to another of the same name, the latter being the plaintiff, The fact alleged was that an inspector of elections had served a term in the State prisor when in truth it was a near neighbor of his of the same name who was an ex-convict. But instead of \$5,000 or \$10,000 expected by the plaintiff, the jury gave him a petty sum, which only aggravated his displeasure. The ordinary result of libel suits against editors in

this country is that the plaintiff is beaten The rule not to apologize after a suit has been begun is sound and wise. So is the other rule, which is always followed in THE SUM office, to correct an error frankly and completely as soon as it is discovered, and before

The Saturday half holiday seems to be making itself out a decided nuisance.

Luiberans and Presbylerians Against the From John Swinton's Paper.

The disapproval of the Knights of Labor by the Lutheran Synod of Missouri has been followed by a similar disapproval of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, which has just held its sessions in Philadelphia. This body, after hearing from the Rev. H. H. Himman, a representative of the National Christian Association, formed to oppose the "Christiess secret societies," adopted a resolution of hearit sympathy with the opposition to such organizations. thy with the opposition to such organizat

Governor Hill Scores Success. From the Boston Herald. Governor Hill scores success most of the

Women who Get Out a Newspaper. From the Park Region Ploneer.

Let it go out to the world just as far as our resources can send it, that every stroke of work (with a slight exception to be named) done in the Piencer of fice last week was done by four women folk, namely, Mrs. Rathbun, her sister, Mrs. Rowe, and the Misses Mabel and Birdie Rathbun. The performances included Mabel and Birdle Rathbul. The performances included job work on both presses, the working off and rolling for the paper, the lifting and cleaning of the forms. Ac. The night exception referred to was the working of one copy of the paper (for himself) by Will Day. We believe that no one will venture to charge that any of the work was in affect inferier to the average of country printing offices, and, indeed, we think it were those its "HAVE WE A GOVERNMENT?"

The Cause and the Meaning of the Prevalent Demoralization.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Reading the record of the day—day in and day out— the question may well be asked, what is the cause of the prevalence in this favored land of all the crime and immorality of the period? What worse were Sodom and Gomorrah, Nineveh, Babylon, and Pompell? If they had had the altars of religion, the institutions and means of loarning, the reformatory and charitable foundations, and the constitutions, laws, and franchises that we have, is it not to be inferred that they would have repented in dust and ashes and been saved? How and why have we come to this, and what and when will be its termination?

Politics had run very low in 1860, but in private life there was general industry, morality, and moderate prosperity. Men were rich then, and generally had endugh and to spare. thousand was a competency, and fifty thousand independence, while a millionaire was not only rare but commiscrated on account of the danger of the fate of Dives. Farmers' sons stayed on their farms, and farmers' daughters helped their mothers do their own housework until they became happy wives and mothers themselves. Young men in the more modest cities and villages were happy to learn trades

until they became happy wives and mothers themselves. Young men in the more modest cities and villages were happy to learn trades and professions and to pursue them without expectations of luxury and wealth. Was that worse or better than it is now?

Prior to 1860 the wealth of the country was in the South, chiefly in human flesh, and it had not only degenerated into debauchery, but culminated in corruption. It had possession of all branches of the Government, and not only revelled in the spoils of office, but pervorted the functions of authority. All the Government there was, legislative, executive, and judicial, was in the hands of a dictatorship. The republic saw that this was beyond human endurance, and said finally. Thus far and no farther, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed, it were superrorgative to recount the cost of precious life and treasure that procured the disenthralment and redemption of the nation. Is it—can it be forgotten?

Then the cry went up, Have we a Government? And the response, in Lincoln's, Grant's, and Arihur's Administrations, was. We Havel it was a reconstruction period, fraught with inchoate perils and evils, but the recuperative power of a patriotic people was equal to the occasion. The North went to work digging and delving in order to discharre its obligations aliks to its financial creditors and disabled defonders: the South likewise in order to rebuild its shattered homes and fortunes. But in an evil day the Government resorted to inflation and subsidies, and did not scruple to perpetuate internal revenue oxactions, that were only tolerated and could only be tolerated on the score of war's exigencies and public safety. Thus the Government has become what its founders mostly feared, a self-perpetuating oligarchy.

The rock upon which the republic was founded was universal suffrago, with the mijority for duty and responsibility and the minority for constant vigilance, removal, or retribution. In an evil day the Ghonese system of pauporism and degradation, absolutism and sub

found its culmination, and the redemption was at length secured.

The question recurs: Is it not possible, very probable, that the absence of a true party government or administration at Washington has much to do with the present unstable, wild, and criminal condition of society? The masses respect all authority and responsibility, and when they see that it is gone, may they not imbibe the common official laxity and accordingly resort to the un-American upheavals and crimes so rampant and threatening at present?

A merely personal no-policy-except-my-policy President may go here or go there and not be missed, and his Cabinet hardly be considered; and in the mean time a surprised and wondering people must ask the old question: Have we a Government? And if not, may not that have to do with the existing demoralization? AN OLD DEMOCRAT.

A Fall that Lawrence Barrett Once Had. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Upon reading an article in THE SUN of Sunday, May 22. I was re-minded of an incident in the life of Mr. Barrett that is known and remembered by very few of the public of the present day, and might be of interest to many of your host of readers.
Some time during the latter part of the fifties—I do

not recall the precise year—Lwas a resident of the city of Detroit, Mich., and a frequent visitor to the then only theatre in the town, the Metropolitan, located on Jefferson avenue, nearly opposite the Biddle House. Mr. Barrett was a member of the stock company of this house, and one evening while enacting the character of Misceppe, after being bound to the back of the "flery, untamed sieed," the animal started up the runway, when upon reaching a height of twelve or fitteen feet the platform gave way, precipitating rider and horse to the stage being. The curiain was immediately lowered, and after a few moments of breathless anxiety Mr. Barrett made his little bow in front of the curtain, to the very great relief of the audience, and the play went on. His miraculous excape from death or injury of a serious nature was a them of corgratulation among his many friends.

It is not frequently wondered, while will neasing his lifelike we frequently wondered, while will neasing his lifelike and the scene of this accident that came so near ending his professional career and depriving the public of his genius.

Mr. Barrett was at that sary day in his reofersion. Avenue, pearly opposite the Biddle House. Mr. Bas

or his genius.

Mr. Barrett was at that early day in his professional career a very great favorite, and in my youthful enthusiasm i predicted that some day in the future he would reach the topmost round in the ladder of fame, and I think I have lived to see that prognostication verified in its follest sense. ts fullest sense.

I also recall the fact that Mr. Edwin Booth fulfilled an urasgement at this theatre about the same time mentoned above, appearing as aftr Edward Mortimer in the Iron Chest." and in "Katharine and Petrucio" the "Iron Chest," and in "Eatharine and retrieve the svening I was present. The Misses Uella and Olive Logan were also members of the flock company of the Metropolitan, the latter being in the cast the night of the accident to Mr. Barrett.

An American Citizen Imprisoned in Cuba. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I beg to call your attention to the case of Cirilo Publo, a citizen of the United States, at present a prisoner in Cuba. He was born in Cuba, and, ou a naturalized citizen and the editor of a newspaper which advocated the cause of the Cuban revolution Afterward he established a cigar store at 201 East For

teenth street. While in Key West, buying tobacco, he returned to Havana on a visit, taking with him his passport. He was arrested immediately upon landing, on a charge of conspiracy, and was tried without a witness appearing against him.

It is not preceded that Publo committed any offence in Cuba. The only accuse the Cuban authorities can find for retaining him is that while in New York he belonged to secret ravolutionary scoleties, and that he was the cellior of a Cuban paper. for retaining him is that to secret revolutionary societies, and that he was to secret revolutionary societies, and that he was editor of a Cuban paper.

These facts have been brought to the attention of the President and the state Department, but no decided action has been taken to ascertain the cause of Public's John L. Chivel.

Joo Mackin Remembers his Old Friends. "Last Saturday morning." says Col. Louis

"Last Saturday morning," says Col. Louis Sharpe, "I received an express package. It was so heavy that I could hardly carry it, but, having got it up into my room in the thearre, I bid the janitor open it. 'They are electrotypes,' said I, 'so handle them carefully.' 'No,' says the janitor to me, after he had torn the cover off the packet, 'these aren't electrotypes; they're paper weights.' And so they were—handsome and highly polished marble paper weights—two of them for me, with my name cut in across the face. There were two for Col. McVicker, two for Horace, two for John Hamilin, two for Uncle Dick Hooley, and two for John McConnell. Each block of marble had the name cut into it, and all were as handsome paper weights as cut into it, and all were as handsome paper weights as you ever saw. Around them all was wound a long bit of paper, upon which was written with the compliments of Joseph C. Mackin."

"What! our Joe who is in the Jollet prison?"

"Yes, has in the particle of the prison?"

"What! our Joe who is in the Jones prison r" "Yes, he's in the marble works there, you know, and these were specimens of his bandiwork. Joe always was pretty solid with the theatre managers, and these little gifts show that he hasn't forgotten them."

Gen. Butler in New Orleans. From the Boston Journ

Gen. George A. Sheridan relates this story, which he picked up in New Orleans: A delegation of citisens of that place visited fresident Lincoln to been him to remove ten Sulser from command there. The fresident lineared while they presented their thousand and one grisvances and then said:

"Well, gentismen, much as you dislike Gen. Butler, at least he has done one good thing for ron, for by his wise sanitary regulations he has kept the yellow fever out."

One of the delegates a creole, skipped before the Fresident and replied, excitedly: "Fardon, Mistah Fresident and replied, excitedly: "Fardon, Mistah Fresident active it was not Euler vat Keep se fevaire avay from sacity: it was dod. He still have a 'sectle mercy for our poor people. He do not send lean Butler and se yellow forcing as same season; no sare."

The Fresident launched heartily, but all the same Gen.

By triding with a cold many a one allows himself to drift into a condition favorable to the development of some latest disease, which thereafter takes full posses-cion of the argicon. Sector cure your cold at ones with the drawn's himselformant, a good remedy for threat all and have affections.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

New York society has grown to such a mammoth size, and its idle classes are so clamprous for variety in their pleasures and occupations, that the seasons are almost always anticipated, and the enjoyments that they bring are exhausted before they have actually arrived. Not many years ago Decoration Day was looked forward to as an opportunity for parties to country places, with rural walks and drives, and a sprinkling of dalsies and senti-ment for the young, while the elderlies regaled themselves with green peas and early strawberries. But in these advanced times, long before the end of May such springtime pleasures have lost their zost and become veritable chestnuts. Tuxedo, the Country Club, and Sunday dinners and luncheons among subur-ban relatives and friends, have been holding out their lures for the last six weeks, and when the commemoration holiday comes it is perplexing to decide what to do with it.

This year the initial day of the Jerome Park races will afford an easy solution of the probem, and the coaches which glittered so bravely in yestorday's parade are nearly all of them "to be continued" on the race course to-mor-row. It cannot fall to be a gay and pleasant meeting, for every mile of the road from here to Jerome Park is lined with verdure and richly scented by the early flowers of the year. The two young champions of the American

turf. Foxball Keene and James P. Kernochan,

Jr., will be there, of course fresh from their triumphs at the Clyde Park races, and ready to win new laurels nearer home. An Englishman who was present at Brookline said young Keene's dash to the front on Burgomaster. after having brought his horse almost to a standstill under the impression that the race was over, was the neatest thing he ever saw on any course. Mr. Kernochan's skill and coolness also won praise from the same observer. The week has been almost barren of incident, though not without its fun and frolic. In the beence of more exciting adventure, evening omnibus drives to Central Park have become popular. A party of girls and men, with a chaperone whose leading qualification is ex-treme youth, rattle up the avenue on the top of one of its stages, and after making the circuit of the Park two or three times, come back for a lively supper at Del's. These Dutch treats are not unlike a picnic in one respect. Their success depends entirely upon having the party well assorted and well placed. To ride four or five miles on a knife board, with your worst instead of your best young man at your side, is more than female humanity can endure with patience, and the men are scarcely more apt to be amiable under a singular trial. Although May has a poor reputation for mar-

riages, it seems to produce as many engage-ments as it does flowers and blossoms. The latest one announced is that of Miss Katharine Winthrop, daughter of Mr. Robert Winthrop, to Mr. Hamilton Fish Kean, a son of Mr. John C. Kean of Second avenue and Ursino, N. J.

The central point of interest next week after Jerome Park will be the long-talked-of June weddings which are appointed to take place on Wednesday and on Thursday. Miss Rosina Emmet's at Pelham, Miss Lawrence's at Bay-side, Miss Kitty Morgan's at St. Thomas's Church, and Miss Bulkley's at Calvary will make things lively during those two days.

Although the Executive Mansion at Wash-

ington is temporarily closed, and people are fleeing in crowds from the heat and the asphalt pavements of that city, yet the season there is by no means dead. Mrs. Whitney's teas, fêtes, and luncheons at Grasslands are frequent and always delightful. Indeed, every day that the fair chatelaine is known to be at her beautiful country seat is almost in the nature of a fête, so numerous are the guests and so long the string of carriages at the gate. The appointments of the house are as complete and perfect as those of a royal residence abroad, with the advantage of being vastly more ac-cessible. Five o'clock tea is an institution as irrevocable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, and, whether Mrs. Whitney is there to preside in person or not, is always served to those who may chance to call.

The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. John Ridgely Carter on Tuesday was as gay and pretty as it was expected to be. The bridegroom is excoptionally good looking, and the bride appeared very youthful in her elaborate bridal finery. She received the congratulations of her friends, especially the younger portion of them, with a happy little smile which carried a suspicion of triumph in it. Perhaps she detected a dash of envy in their good wishes, for in spite of the practical eye to the main chance which distinguishes the age in which we live, a handsome man is always a thing greatly to be desired in female eyes.

The garden party that was given on Thursday for a local charity was also a pretty affair, notwithstanding an unexpected shower. Mrs. Augustus Tyler and Mrs. Calderon Carlisis had a knot of charming girls assisting in their tent, whose attendance at the tea and refreshment tables was so satisfactory that crowds of hungry men solicited their ministrations and paid liberally for the privilege.

Monsieur and Madame de Reuterskield have taken a cottage at Bar Harbor, next to that of Secretary Whitney. Mrs. Beach and her daughters of Washington will also spend the summer at Mt. Desert, which promises to have a monopoly of Washington, Philadelphia, and Boston notabilities. There will also be a fair representation of New Yorkers, mostly people who stop there for a week or so on a yachting cruise, and with their boats riding at anchor in the harbor entertain more agreeably on board of them during their short stay than all the rest of the population during the entire sea-son. With Newport and Saratoga at easy distance, and the incomparable charms of Tuxedo so near at hand, few New Yorkers care to establish themselves so far away as Mt. Desert.

The English Derby, which was run on Wednesday, brought together the greatest crowd that has ever been seen on Epsom Downs. Of course, being the jubilee Dorby, it was bound to be bigger and better than any of its predecessors. Americans swarmed as a matter of course, and some of ithe most dashing four-in-hands were driven and "topped" by Americans. Levees and drawing rooms seem to be the only functions that our countrymen and country women are satisfied to skip this year. "They are too dreadfully common." writes a New York girl from the other side. "I wouldn't be found dead in such a crowd of Yankee nobodies."

At the last presentation by far the prettiest New Yorker was Mrs. J. F. D. Lanier, whose court dress was a study in freshness, elegance, and simplicity. It was entirely white, and the trimmings of point lace and lilies of the valley in the best possible taste. Mr. Lanier was presented with his wife in the regulation court costume of black velvet and knee breeches. To those who know him, it is unnecessary to say that for precision and finish of detail Mr. Lanier's appearance was unassailable.

The Etruria took a large number of passengers yesterday, many of them well-known people from Washington, Baltimore, and this city. Some of the Britannic's passongers were transferred to her, notwithstanding the fright they had so recently received. Others were too nervous to risk the terrors of the sea again, and are preparing for a quiet summer in the security of their own vines and fig trees. In fact, now that the White Star line has been overtaken with disaster, nobody knows what steamers to trust. The Inman and French boats were long ago put under a cloud, the sinking of the Oregon destroyed the proetige of the Cunarders, and few English-speaking travellers care for being shut up for a week or ten days among Germans. Besides, all the recent letters from abroad contain doleful walls over the wretchedly cold and wet weather which has prevailed in England and on the Continent. Mr. Charles L. Perkins owed his death to it, and it has almost paralyzed both sightseeing and shopping in London and in Paris. The terrible calamity of the burning of the Opéra Comique in Paris has intensified the gloom of Americans in that city, though none of them lost their lives. Altogether, America this summer promises to be much more thereful and amusing then Kurore